Month	Index Numbers	Annual price rise (%)
Sep-07	215.1	3.5
Oct-07	215.2	3.1
Nov-07	215.9	3.3
Dec-07	216.4	3.8
Jan-08	218.2	4.5
Feb-08 P	218.5	4.6
Mar-08 P	223.2	6.4

P: Provisional

Increase in the rate of inflation in March, 2008 has been due to an increase in prices of vegetables, cotton, oil seeds, iron ore, edible oils and steel related products**.**

New method to calculate inflation rate

†2378. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that technical group of Reserve Bank of India has recently suggested a new method to calculate the inflation rate;

(b) if so, the details of this new method alongwith its benefits;

(c) whether Government has taken any decision to implement this method; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PA WAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) The Internal Technical Group of the Reserve Bank of India has submitted its Report on seasonal movement of inflation. It has not suggested any new method to calculate the inflation rate.

LIC's share in Insurance Business

†2379. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Life Insurance Corporation of India's (LIC) share in insurance business is 90 to 95 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether LIC's share in market has decreased or increased at present; and

(d) the details of LIC's share in market from 2004-05 to till date, year-wise?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.